

Rain tonight and probably Tuesday; variable winds.

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DURBAR CEREMONIES COMMENCE AT DELHI

State Entry of Viceroy and Vicereine Into City of Ephemeral Magnificence Attended by Royal Honors.

Elephants Trumpet Salute to Lord and Lady Curzon. Little Enthusiasm Exhibited by the Natives.

Route to Vice Regal Marquee Guarded by Double Row of Soldiers—Escort of Cavalry and Indian Chiefs.

DELHI, India, Dec. 28.—Lord Curzon, the vicereine, formerly Miss Mary Leiter, of Chicago, arrived at Delhi today to take part in the Durbar. They were accorded royal honors, and marched in procession through the town to the vicereine's encampment, several miles beyond the Delhi wall.

Lord Curzon was greeted at the station by all the Indian princes, who assembled there with large escorts of cavalry and infantry. Royal elephants, the finest animals of India, were extended in a row outside the station yard.

The vicereine was accompanied by the Duke of Connaught, who was sent by King Edward to represent him, and the duchess. Lord Curzon reached the railway station at 11:30 o'clock and was received by the ruling chiefs, the governors of presidencies, the lieutenant-governors of provinces, and the lieutenant-generals commanding the troops.

A Royal Salute.

Just as the party arrived a salute of thirty-one guns was fired from the fort. The duke and duchess received every honor from the vicereine and chiefs. The latter were presented in turn to the members of the royal and vicereine parties. Afterward all mounted elephants and set forth at once for the great camp. As Lord and Lady Curzon and the Duke and Duchess of Connaught mounted elephants, and passed through the line of ruling chiefs, the elephants of the latter saluted by trumpeting, and throwing their trunks in the air. Then they fell in line behind the vicereine and royal parties, the whole making a procession of seventy colossal elephants.

The parade started with the dragons and horse artillery in gorgeous attire leading. The heralds and trumpeters, six English soldiers and six natives, clad in crimson coats, heavily braided with gold, followed.

The vicereine's body guard consisted of fine looking men superbly mounted on bay Australian horses. They were thirty strong, and were attired in brilliant uniforms of scarlet and gold, with the young Maharajas of Jodhpur, Kishangan, Jaora, Rutlam, and Dholpur in their ranks making a magnificent show in their white frock coats, faced with the Star of India in blue and gold Hindustani embroidery. Their waists were encircled with blue kamarbands with crimson tassels, and gold sword-belts. Turbans of blue, with the cords elpher "for the King," formed their headgear. The whole was surrounded by gold aligettes. They rode magnificent black chargers, with leopard skins over the saddles.

The Vicereine's Elephant.

Next came the most impressive feature of the procession, the elephants bearing the members of the vicereine and ducal parties with their staffs. Lord Curzon and lady were seated on a gold and silver howdah from the vicereine's Hall at Simla, on an enormous tusker elephant lent for the occasion by the Maharajah of Benares. There was a magnificent saddle cloth of crimson velvet, decorated with large gold and silver stars. This was the handwork of the famous shawl merchant Kishenchand, of Delhi, who recently made the coronation robes for Queen Alexandra. The vicereine wore his state uniform with the star of India in blue. Lady Curzon was dressed in grey.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught followed immediately after the vicereine, seated on an equally gorgeous howdah on a magnificent elephant. His royal

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WEATHER CONDITIONS.

There has been a decided rise in the temperatures east of the Mississippi River, particularly in the Southern States. There will be rain tonight in the middle Atlantic States, continuing Tuesday. On the middle Atlantic Coast the winds will be variable and fresh. Steamers departing today for European ports will have fresh to brisk southerly winds, with increasing cloudiness to the Grand Banks.

TEMPERATURE.

9 A. M. 33
12 M. 34
1 P. M. 35

THE SUN

Sun sets today 4:47 p. m.
Sun rises tomorrow 7:19 a. m.

TIDE TABLE.

Low tide today 2:27 p. m.
High tide today 8:22 p. m.
High tide tomorrow 2:25 p. m.
Low tide tomorrow 8:06 a. m.

"ONE OF THE BEST IN THE COUNTRY."

SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.

Having been a constant reader of THE TIMES for the last year, I have noted the marked development in its every feature. It is thoroughly progressive in its make-up and matter, and is certainly one of the best daily papers of the country; and its management is to be congratulated.

Om Ramsdell

Sergeant-at-Arms, United States Senate.

EIGHT TRAGEDIES IN NEW YORK IN A DAY

Unusually Large Number of Violent Deaths Reported.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Eight violent deaths were reported in Greater New York yesterday. Three were clear cases of suicide and the others resulted from a variety of causes.

Mrs. Mary Clarke, wife of the chief officer of the steamship Beverly, died from the result of gas poisoning, self-administered.

George Simon and Jacob Schwartz died after drinking carbolic acid.

Mary Stark, twenty-four years old, of Whitonville, Mass., was found dead in a hotel. Escaping gas is given as the cause. An unidentified man was found in her room unconscious.

Mary Series, thirty-eight years old, drank weak alcohol and died in a hospital. Henry Bunkley, twenty-seven years old, was found on the sidewalk with a fractured skull, and died later.

Two men are dead as the result of falls, one in the powerhouse of a street railway company and the other in a lodging house.

An eight-year-old girl unsuccessfully attempted suicide by swallowing carbolic acid, and a woman, thirty-two years old, hanged herself in a police station, but was cut down in time to save her life.

DEEP, DARK MYSTERY ABOUT POISON EATERS

Watchman Guards Rooms Where Borax Reigns.

To keep the Government's "star boarders" from telling secrets as to the progress of the food experiments made upon them by Dr. Wiley, of the Bureau of Chemistry, the young men are now prohibited from talking to reporters. A special watchman has been detailed to guard them.

This movement was made at the suggestion of Secretary of Agriculture Wilson and by order of Dr. Wiley, both of whom are determined to stop the giving out of news by the young men who are undergoing the food tests. The watchman went to work yesterday, and reporters are kept at a distance from the rooms occupied by the patients.

Dr. Wiley has been in Chicago on business, and in his absence Prof. Bigelow has weighed the food for the young men and attended to the general supervision of the cooking. Dr. Wiley returned this afternoon and through him hereafter all news as to the progress of the tests will be given out.

HUMBERTS IMMURED IN PARIS CONCIERGERIE

Public Misled Regarding Station of Arrival.

A CAB FOR EACH PRISONER

Eve Humbert Ailights in Tears—Her Mother Calm—Madam's Hallucinations.

PARIS, Dec. 28.—The Humbert swindlers arrived in Paris from Madrid at 7:32 o'clock this morning. They were taken from the train at a station outside the city walls.

Only a few journalists and the police were at the station. Misleading reports caused the public to crowd about the Central Station on Orleans Road.

Mme. Humbert and Mlle. Eve were dressed in simple black. Each prisoner was placed in a cab with three policemen.

As the long file of six cabs passed through the Paris streets to the Conciergerie, the people along the way got an inkling of who the occupants were, but there was no demonstration.

Eve Humbert alighted first. She was weeping, and seemed to realize her position. She gave her arm to her mother, who was calm. Romain Daurignac and the others followed.

They were all self-possessed as Mme. Humbert. Frederick Humbert could hardly be recognized, and he showed plainly the traces of his recent illness in Madrid.

Mlle. Eve Humbert was this afternoon provisionally released. She has gone to stay with her paternal grandmother.

MME. HUMBERT LOQUACIOUS AND HAS HALLUCINATIONS

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The Paris correspondent of the "London Times" says "Le Matin" publishes reports of a conversation its representative, Mouthon, had with Dr. Gilbert, who temporarily has been acting as the medical attendant of the Humberts.

Mme. Theresa, he said, was appallingly loquacious, and appeared to be the victim of hallucinations. She accuses Romain of being the chief cause of her misfortunes, saying he always was playing the fool or amusing himself, while she had to manage everything. She declares she has been robbed by every one.

WRECK SURVIVOR TELLS OF EXPERIENCE

Still Talks Incoherently as Result of Shock.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 28.—John R. Robertson, of Elmira, a victim of the Grand Trunk wreck at Wanstead, Ontario, passed through Buffalo this morning on his way to his home.

Mr. Robertson was suffering so from shock that he still talked incoherently. His face was bruised and battered almost beyond recognition and he believes that he owes his life to the fact that, through a mistake, he did not get the berth he had engaged in the forward sleeping car, but was obliged to take one in a rear sleeper.

Mr. Robertson fixes the time of the wreck as 10:15 o'clock, because that was when his watch stopped. He was getting a drink at the water tank and was hurled the entire length of the car by force of the collision.

BELGRAVIA ARRIVES WITH SMALLPOX ABOARD

The Ship to Be Disinfected and Released.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The Hamburg-American Line steamer Belgravie arrived today from Hamburg and Boulogne with 1,344 steerage passengers, and was detained at Quarantine with one case of smallpox.

The patient, a man, will be sent to North Brother's Island. About sixty of his fellow passengers, who occupied the same compartment in the steerage, will be sent to Hoffman Island for observation.

The steamer will be disinfected and released this afternoon.

DYNAMITE EXPLOSION WILL CAUSE ONE DEATH

Man Fatally Injured, Three Others Badly Hurt.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28.—By the explosion of fifty pounds of dynamite at the reserve filter plant in Oak Lane at 7 o'clock this morning one man was fatally injured, three men were badly hurt, and 150 houses within a radius of two miles were damaged.

Residents describe the shock as similar to a severe earthquake. Families were thrown to the floor around their breakfast tables, and showered with splintered glass. One man, living a mile from the scene of the explosion, was badly cut by glass showered upon him while in his bath.

Five hundred employees at the plant were confined in barracks under small-pox quarantine. They burst through the police lines and scattered in all directions.

D. J. Malone & Co. were the contractors. They have not yet determined the cause of the explosion, but it is said to have been caused by dynamite placed too close to an engine.

COMMITTEE NOW FAVORS BEACH'S APPOINTMENT

Will Unanimously Recommend Confirmation by the Senate.

The Senate Committee on the Judiciary will unanimously recommend for confirmation the appointment of Morgan H. Beach to be United States Attorney for the District of Columbia.

An agreement to this effect, which was reached yesterday, marks the close of one of the bitterest fights ever made against a nominee for a District position.

Opponents to the confirmation of Mr. Beach began the battle against the nominee as soon as his name was announced over a month ago, and have piled the lash relentlessly ever since. The attack was directed against his ability, politics, and even his character. Whispers of charges of the most sensational nature were heard outside of the committee room respecting that which was said to be happening on the inside, though members of the committee maintained a discreet silence.

The fight against Beach was led by Senator McComas of Maryland, who had in D. H. Baker a candidate for the position. In the campaign for the appointment the fight became so warm that the greatest doubt existed from the first as to who would be successful, but the name of Beach was never seriously considered. He was placed by nearly all as being hopelessly in the "also ran" list.

Had Friend at Court.

Mr. Beach, however, had a friend at court. Assistant Attorney General Hoyt is his intimate friend, and he had the ear of Attorney General Knox. In that way the endorsement of a Cabinet member for Mr. Beach reached the President, and when the fight between the leading candidates became heated the President named Mr. Beach as a solution to a complicated question.

But the contest was not ended with the nomination. Senator McComas was not satisfied because the patronage had been taken away from Maryland, which State he held to be entitled to the lion's share of the District plums.

The Maryland Senator, not altogether

VOLCANO BENEATH POSTOFFICE CLIQUE

SENATOR SCOTT TALKS OF CUBAN RECIPROCITY

Calls on President Roosevelt for Conference Today.

Senator Scott of West Virginia does not take the most hopeful view of Cuban treaty prospects—that is, he does not feel any great enthusiasm for the subject, and will not make any prediction as to what the Senate will probably do.

Senator Scott was a caller at the White House offices this morning, and spent nearly a half hour in the President's room. Cuban reciprocity was one of the subjects talked over, with a prospective appointment or two for West Virginians. On the former subject Senator Scott said: "Fair and full consideration will be given the Cuban reciprocity treaty by the Senate, but it would be premature to say anything else. If we give reciprocity to Cuba, what shall we do to France and these other countries which desire reciprocal trade advantages?"

In the line of appointments, the Senator brought to the President's attention the name of the Rev. C. H. Payne, colored, of Huntington, W. Va., who would like to become United States minister to Liberia, in case the incumbent, John R. A. Crossland, resigns or is removed. A rumor regarding the latter possibility has been afloat for the past week, and the two West Virginia Senators are backing their constituent for the place.

"Mr. Payne will not be thoroughly pleased with the news that I have sent him," said the Senator, after seeing the President. "It is hardly likely the President can give his name consideration, as the matter has been otherwise arranged. Payne is highly thought of by the people of our State, and has their support, but he will have to stand aside this time, it seems."

Tip Has Been Passed to All Employees in the Divisions Threatened With Congress Investigation That Silence Must Be Maintained.

Meteoric Career of A. W. Machen, Now Superintendent of Free Delivery System, Who Has Been Generous in His Treatment of Relatives.

Under fear of Congress investigation, which might expose its secret dealings, the Postoffice oligarchy is trying to close every track and crevice through which might percolate a knowledge of the operations of the combine.

From the big chiefs the tip has been passed down to subchiefs, subordinates, and clerks that they must not divulge the "business" of the department, and the intimation has been strong that anyone who knows anything, and allows his knowledge to become public, will "for the good of the service" be obliged to seek employment elsewhere. The combine is aware of the fact that a smoldering volcano lies beneath it, which requires but a Congress resolution to become a real Mont Pelée. Hence, precautions are being taken. Still there are facts of common knowledge to everyone who knows anything of the workings of the "clique" which rules certain divisions of the Postoffice Department, which cannot be denied.

A Rapid Rise.

When A. W. Machen, now superintendent of the free delivery system, came to Washington ten or twelve years ago to become assistant superintendent of free delivery, he was not blessed with an abundance of this world's goods. Within a comparatively short time he was made superintendent, the position which he now occupies. He now maintains a handsome residence in Corcoran Street, has a large estate in Maryland, is largely interested in mining and oil stocks, and is highly prosperous on \$3,500 a year.

Mr. Machen came into office as a Democrat, appointed by President Cleveland. In 1896 he became, and has since remained, a Republican. Mr. Machen first attracted attention by the organization of a spy system for the detection of dishonest letter carriers. Although there was no provision for the maintenance of these inspectors and the payment to them of \$6 a day, Mr. Machen's force received compensation by means of a fund created by the discharge of letter carriers of the \$1,000 class and the employment in their stead of new carriers in the \$600 class. For instance, in the city of Philadelphia about 100 carriers were discharged, and more than eighty of them are said to have been \$1,000 men. In their place \$600 carriers were engaged. Out of the fixed appropriation for the postal service this left a fund for the payment of inspectors.

Brother's Appointment.

One of the first of Mr. Machen's appointments to this service was his brother-in-law, a Mr. Bellman, who was one of the founders of the Bond Steel Post Company, of Adrian, Mich., which supplies rural free delivery boxes. Another of Mr. Machen's appointees was his brother, William A. Machen, now a coal dealer in this city. He was not appointed under the name of Machen, but under the name of William A. Clark. Mr. Machen explained the appointment by saying that he did so in order to maintain secrecy regarding the work of the inspectors.

A number of the "inspectors" subsequently made affidavit that they had been assessed \$50 each for campaign use in Ohio, and that the money "was directed to be sent to an agent in that State."

Mr. Machen has also been successful in installing his other relatives in office under him. Another brother, Charles A. Machen, is on the salary rolls at \$1,400 a year as a subchief in the rural free delivery service. He is said to visit the office for an hour, an hour and a half, some times two hours each day, and to spend the remainder of his time attending to the family coal business.

Disburses Millions.

George W. Beavers, chief of the division of salaries and allowances, has the disbursement of many millions of dollars annually for the postal service. His salary has been \$3,500 annually for several years, and upon this alone he is said to maintain an automobile, with a Government clerk as chauffeur, and has recently erected a handsome residence in Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Beavers has supervision over the matter of hiring the cancelling machines used in the large post-offices throughout the country.

There are two machines on the market, one of which rents for \$400 and the other for \$150. For all practical purposes it was said that the latter machine is as good as the \$400 one, but when inspected an adverse report was returned, and out of the 6,000 cancellers in use, but a few hundred are of the \$150 type.

The supervisor of the rural free delivery is Eugene H. Hathaway, who returned from a twenty years' residence in Mexico shortly before the Spanish-American war. He went to Cuba in the course of the war to assist in the distribution of mail to soldiers, and upon his return was made an inspector and afterward promoted to the position which he now occupies. He perfected the Corbin lock box, which is now extensively used along the rural routes.